



# MEMO



N O R T H C A R O L I N A D I V I S I O N O F  
E M E R G E N C Y M A N A G E M E N T

## North Carolina Prepares for Impacts from Gulf Coast Oil Spill—Just in Case

Officials from NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard continue to say the chance of oil actually reaching North Carolina's coast remains very remote. And any oil that did make it to the state would likely be in the form of small tar balls, not the sheens or blankets seen in the Gulf.

While impacts from the oil spill are expected to be minimal for North Carolina, emergency management officials are acting cautiously and preparing for the worst.

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"I'd rather be prepared just in case," said NCEM Director Doug Hoell. "Because hope is not a course of action."

Since mid-May, NCEM has been monitoring the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and working with State Emergency Response Team partners to prepare North Carolina for any potential impacts from the spill.

"The state has had an oil spill response plan in place for more than 20 years," Hoell said. "With our protruding coastline and the constant shipping traffic offshore, we know there is potential for oil to impact our shoreline at some point in time."

Given the nature of this unprecedented event, the agency thought it prudent to review and update their plan. So NCEM and Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials have been meeting for weeks to discuss existing plans and strategize on any amendments that may be needed to address a leak of the extraordinary size and nature of the one in the Gulf.

Gov. Bev Perdue, Crime Control and Public Safety Secretary Reuben Young, Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Dee Freeman, U.S. Coast Guard Captain Anthony Popiel and emergency management officials met Tuesday, June 15 with legislative leaders, mayors and county managers from the coast to discuss what the state is doing to prepare for any potential impacts from the Gulf oil spill.

If North Carolina does begin to see impacts from the Gulf oil spill, the U.S. Coast Guard would serve as the lead agency for response efforts in coastal waters. For impacts to inland waters, the EPA would be lead agency in charge.



Gov. Bev Perdue (center) is surrounded by reporters following a press conference June 15 at the State Emergency Operations Center on the state's oil spill response plan.

## Oil Spill continued

Already, the environmental officials have begun taking samples of water, fish and shellfish to monitor for any long-term impacts to the state. And emergency management staff has inventoried equipment that may be needed for response efforts. Both agencies have fielded questions from citizens and groups who are interested in volunteering to help clean up if needed.

While there have been numerous offers for help from volunteers, emergency management officials stress that volunteers should not handle oil contaminated materials. Because of the potential harmful chemicals involved, anyone interested in helping with clean up must get specific hazardous materials training.

To keep abreast of current information regarding the state's plans and any needed response to the oil spill, visit [www.nccrimecontrol.org/gulfoilspill](http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/gulfoilspill).



*U.S. Coast Guard Captain Anthony Popiel briefs legislative leaders, city mayors and county managers on current oil spill activities June 15 at the State Emergency Operations Center.*

## NCEM Employee Aids in Gulf Cleanup Efforts

The BP Gulf Oil Spill has had an especially significant impact on one N.C. Emergency Management employee's daily life.

On May 18, Quinn Woolard was deployed to Venice, Louisiana to help with the cleanup. Woolard works full-time as a natural hazard planner for NCEM, but in his off hours, he serves as a Marine Science Tech for the U.S. Coast Guard reserves. He expects to be working that mission until at least early August.



*U.S. Coast Guard deploys boom around nesting area for pelicans off coast of La.*

Woolard's group was deploying boom around a nesting spot for pelicans, working with one of various protection teams.

He told his supervisor, Elaine Wathen, that the crews were putting in long, hard days and were 90 minutes from the nearest restaurant or store, but that they were glad to be helping protect some of the fragile coastline.



*U.S. Coast Guard reserves pick up oil remnants in Venice, La. from the BP Deepwater Horizon oil leak.*

## NCEM Works with NCDA&CS to Develop National Veterinary Stockpile Plan

N.C. Emergency Management is working the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to develop a National Veterinary Stockpile Plan for North Carolina. The National Veterinary Stockpile Plan will be used to provide large quantities of medicine and supplies for animals in case veterinarians need additional materials during a health crisis or natural disaster. Animal supplies will be housed in strategic locations across the state. The program concept is similar in nature to the Strategic National Stockpile Plan which consists of facilities throughout the state holding large quantities of medicine and medical supplies for humans. The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services manages the Strategic National Stockpile Plan for North Carolina. NCEM handles transportation for all sites in the Strategic National Stockpile Plan and the upcoming National Veterinary Stockpile Plan.

For more information, contact Glenn Wisbey at (919) 715-8577 or [gwisbey@ncem.org](mailto:gwisbey@ncem.org).

## **TERMS Helps the Emergency Management Community**

The N.C. Division of Emergency Management launched a web-based portal for students who want better access to training documents and courses offered through the division. The Training and Exercise Registration Management System, or TERMS, gives first responders and emergency management professionals an easier process for registering, taking and tracking state-sponsored classes, and accessing their personal training records.

“TERMS is a new capability for the division that will greatly benefit the emergency response community in North Carolina,” said Steve Sloan, NCEM Assistant Director of Logistics.

The new system will benefit students, their managers and NCEM training staff in a number of ways. For students, TERMS enables them to view their course records and print certificates of completed courses at any time.

“TERMS allows students to view their record 24/7, 365 days a year. All they need is an internet connection,” explained Sloan.

Students also can view the course name, dates, hours and any continuing education units earned in conjunction with the N.C. Community College system. In addition, TERMS offers students the ability to receive new class notifications and register for courses online without constantly checking the website, filling out applications by hand, then faxing them to NCEM. When a student sets up their profile, they can select an option to receive notices of all course offerings.

“New course listings will be emailed every two weeks to students who select this option,” said Mike Cline, TERMS project manager. “Students can save time because they don’t have to scour through old and new listings that are mixed together.”

Students can easily check course schedules because calendar listings can be sorted according to the student’s interest. After completing courses, students can submit anonymous evaluations of the courses and their instructors, without fear of instructor retaliation.

Managers will appreciate the ability to track their employee’s course completion and attendance status online rather than calling assigned training officers. But the biggest benefit of TERMS is what it will do for state training administrators. TERMS will serve as the central data repository and organization system for all emergency management training. In years past, NCEM has manually entered data onto spreadsheets and records, storing paperwork for hundreds of classes and thousands of students in file cabinets.

“Students had to call or email state staff to request a transcript or copy of their certificate. Now, students will have total control in researching and analyzing their records and even printing certificates they may have lost,” said Cline.

TERMS also will serve as the framework for verifying emergency response qualifications in the state’s credentialing program. By housing the first responder’s transcript, TERMS will be able to identify which roles the first responder can perform based on the courses completed. This information may be able to be linked to a programmed identification badge.

“When a first responder shows up at an event and the incident commander needs someone who can perform the role of resource manager or finance officer, the incident commander can swipe the person’s badge and see what they are qualified to do based on completed courses listed in their TERMS transcript,” said Sloan.

State officials have not yet established a timetable for this capability, but anticipate it should be available in the next three to five years.

State administrators also are counting on TERMS to help them better evaluate the return on investment for some classes. More efficient data will be used to calculate the costs of particular courses and the number of students trained in different emergency management disciplines, thus helping management to decide if there is a sufficient return on investment for some of the classes. Previously a course’s return on investment was calculated by manually collecting and totaling data from every class. Using TERMS, state administrators access real-time data on a particular class or the entire program at the click of the mouse.

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“TERMS allows the state to move to the new digital age housing data and information more accurately and efficiently,” said Cline.

To access TERMS, students should go to <http://terms.ncem.org> and create a profile. Profiles are based on the student’s first and last name and last four digits of their social security number. If a student has taken a course in prior years, then there may be a chance the student’s name is already in TERMS. Past course registries are being entered into the database.

“It is a win-win for everyone but more importantly, TERMS will allow first responders easy access to their training records and registering for new training opportunities,” concluded Sloan.

## State Emergency Response Commission to Meet

The North Carolina State Emergency Response Commission will meet July 15 in Raleigh to discuss homeland security projects, local, state and federal initiatives. The meeting will be held on the ground floor of the Archdale building in downtown Raleigh.

For more information, contact John Yarboro at 919-715-8000 ext 340 or [jyarboro@ncem.org](mailto:jyarboro@ncem.org).

## How to Access TERMS:

Go to <http://terms.ncem.org>

Click Training Registration Login.

*Return users – enter Login ID and password.*

*First time users – click First Time Registration.*

*Enter Last Name, First Name, Last Four Digits of Social Security Number.*

*If a personal profile comes up that is partial filled in – are in the system. Verify or complete your profile.*

*Make sure email address is accurate.  
This will be needed to authenticate your profile.*

*Make sure to create a login ID and password personalized to you.*

*Note: If you want to be notified of new course listings by email every two weeks, check “I want to be notified of all agency course offerings.”*

Click “I have read and understand the training policies and procedures.”

Click Save.

*Go to your email account and retrieve the authenticate email sent by TERMS.*

*When you receive your authentication email, click on link provided and then hit continue on the popup screen.*

## State CAMETs Officially Given to Counties

Seven of the original nine Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailers from 2006 have transferred ownership from the state to the counties where they were placed.

“When we started the CAMET program, we knew ownership eventually would change. After all, the counties are the ones who need and use this capability the most,” said Tim Johnson, CAMET Program Manager.

Cherokee, Mitchell, Moore, Rockingham, Rutherford, Vance and Washington counties now own their own CAMETs. The emergency management offices in each county assumed all ownership responsibilities after the state signed with each county a memorandum of agreement and turned over the titles for the trailers. It is now up to the counties to register and insure their CAMETs just like they would other county-owned vehicles.

Ownership of the two remaining original CAMETs were retained by state agencies. One is now owned by NCEM and housed at the Eastern Branch Office in Kinston; the other was transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in Raleigh.

The change in ownership requires the new holder to be responsible for all maintenance and upkeep of the trailer.

For more information, contact Tim Johnson at 919-715-4077 or [tjohnson@ncem.org](mailto:tjohnson@ncem.org).

## NCEM Joins OEMS at Disaster Week at Duke University

N.C. Emergency Management joined N. C. Office of Emergency Medical Services and other agencies to talk to Duke medical students as part of disaster education week June 8 – 11 at the Duke Divinity School.

NCEM and OEMS talked to medical students about the emergency management response process and state capabilities when responding to a large scale event. The students also learned about the hospital emergency planning process, personal protective equipment, principles of decontamination, and ethics in emergency response. In addition, the students participated in classroom discussions and exercises responding to a pandemic outbreak.

NCEM and OEMS gave several presentations over two days reaching more than 300 students. All of the students were in medical school, nursing school or studying to be physician assistants or physical therapists.

The students had some knowledge of government emergency response because they already had taken some incident command system courses online as part of their education.

Orange County Emergency Management displayed their CAMET trailer and Durham County Emergency Management displayed their mass care support trailer. American Red Cross was also on hand to talk about their outreach capabilities and how they are intertwined with local and state governments during responses.

For more information, contact Tim Johnson at 919-715-4077 or [tjohnson@ncem.org](mailto:tjohnson@ncem.org).



*Tim Johnson (sitting at computer) prepares to teach Duke medical students at Duke's Disaster Week June 8–11.*



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***“In the Business of Saving Lives and Protecting Property”***

*The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management was formed in 1977 to coordinate the preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities of all agencies for emergency management within North Carolina. It performs this mission by planning, organizing, staffing, equipping, training, testing and activating emergency management programs during times of need.*